

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

GB2004/004725

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 IPC 7 F04C27/00 F04B37/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
 IPC 7 F04C F04B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 018, no. 090 (M-1560), 15 February 1994 (1994-02-15) -& JP 05 296171 A (ULVAC JAPAN LTD), 9 November 1993 (1993-11-09) abstract; figures 1-3 -----	1-9
X	EP 0 874 158 A (THE BOC GROUP PLC) 28 October 1998 (1998-10-28) the whole document -----	1-9
A	US 5 863 317 A (SMITH ET AL) 26 January 1999 (1999-01-26) the whole document -----	1
A	DE 102 07 929 A1 (LEYBOLD VAKUUM GMBH) 4 September 2003 (2003-09-04) the whole document -----	1

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents :

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
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- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*&\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

2 February 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

10/02/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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Information on patent family members

GB2004/004725

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
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EP 0874158	A	28-10-1998	US	6244841 B1	12-06-2001
			EP	0874158 A1	28-10-1998
			JP	11050989 A	23-02-1999
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			DE	69423564 T2	21-09-2000
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			EP	1476661 A1	17-11-2004